



Monday 30th March 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The ongoing impact of COVID-19 continues to change our social, economic and educational structures and ways of living, working and learning. I hope all our families are keeping safe. The Prime Minister Scott Morrison reiterated again yesterday that schools remain open but students are asked to stay at home in the interests of their safety and under the advice of the NSW Department of Health. I would like to reiterate and support this advice in relation to our community.

Attendance

An important part of compliance is how schools record student attendance. The current situation where students are working from home presents an unprecedented circumstance for all schools in fulfilling our legal obligations around recording student attendance. To this end the process is as follows:

Students will be marked as **attending** if they meet **ONE** of the following criteria:

- a) Log into online learning from home by 9am
- b) Are physically present on the school site
- c) Parents of students who have no access to the internet respond to a **text message each day** asking them if their child is engaging with their learning at home with a **YES** response

Students will be marked '**Absent**' from school if they:

- a) Do **NOT** log into online learning from home by 9am
- b) Parents of students who have no access to the internet respond to a daily **text message** asking if their child is engaging with their learning at home with a **NO** response or they fail to respond to the text.

A courtesy phone call will be made by a member of our Administration or teaching staff if there has been no response to the text. This is part of our ongoing follow up and support of student wellbeing.

Advice for Parents/Carers

Thank you to our parents and carers who are supporting their children in online and remote learning. After one week in this space we have all learned lots! Teachers are currently working on packages of work, both online and hard copy, for Term 2 Weeks 1-5.

Just a reminder that hard copy packages of work for Term 1 Weeks 9-11 are still available from the office.

Parents and carers, you are providing students with a routine and support that fits in with your family's individual context. The online and packaged work for students has some flexibility involved in its delivery and teachers are looking to identify milestones to check in with each student's progress. This may be through a comment/interaction on Google Classroom, a submitted reflection on progress by the student or the completion and submission of a task.



**BRISBANE
WATER
SECONDARY
COLLEGE**

UMINA CAMPUS

Please be mindful of ensuring students take breaks from their work throughout the day. Constantly looking at a computer screen and sitting for long periods of time is not good for anyone. Encourage your children to move around, take a brain and body break from learning online and pursue a hobby or activity they enjoy. Activity has always been built into the school day and should continue to be a priority while students learn at home.

An important message to all is that **students should be staying at home** and not out visiting friends or mixing in groups greater than two people. A reminder about adhering to current rules around social distancing and good hygiene around hand washing.

Thank you to our community, students and staff for your cooperation and support.

Regards

Kerrie O'Heir
Principal

UMINA CAMPUS

Veron Road UMINA NSW 2257

P 02 4341 9066

E umina-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au